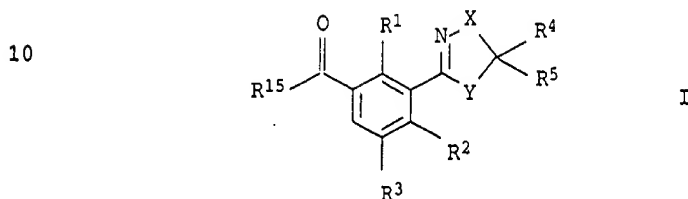


We claim

- 5 1. A 3-heterocyclyl-substituted benzoyl derivative of the formula I



where the variables have the following meanings:

- 20  $R^1, R^2$  are hydrogen, nitro, halogen, cyano,  $C_1$ - $C_6$ -alkyl,  $C_1$ - $C_6$ -haloalkyl,  $C_1$ - $C_6$ -alkoxy,  $C_1$ - $C_6$ -haloalkoxy,  $C_1$ - $C_6$ -alkylthio,  $C_1$ - $C_6$ -haloalkylthio,  $C_1$ - $C_6$ -alkylsulfinyl,  $C_1$ - $C_6$ -haloalkylsulfinyl,  $C_1$ - $C_6$ -alkylsulfonyl or  $C_1$ - $C_6$ -haloalkylsulfonyl;
- 25  $R^3$  is hydrogen, halogen or  $C_1$ - $C_6$ -alkyl;
- 30  $R^4, R^5$  are hydrogen, halogen, cyano, nitro,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkyl,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkoxy- $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkyl, di( $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkoxy)- $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkyl, di( $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkyl)-amino- $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkyl, [2,2-di( $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkyl)-1-hydrazino]- $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkyl,  $C_1$ - $C_6$ -alkyliminoxy- $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkyl,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkoxycarbonyl- $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkyl,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkylthio- $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkyl,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -haloalkyl,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -cyanoalkyl,  $C_3$ - $C_8$ -cycloalkyl,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkoxy,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkoxy- $C_2$ - $C_4$ -alkoxy,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -haloalkoxy, hydroxyl,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkylcarbonyloxy,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkylthio,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -haloalkylthio, di( $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkyl)amino, COR<sup>6</sup>, phenyl or benzyl, it being possible for the two last-mentioned
- 35 substituents to be fully or partially halogenated and/or to have attached to them one to three of the following groups:
- 40 nitro, cyano,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkyl,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -haloalkyl,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkoxy or  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -haloalkoxy;
- 45

or

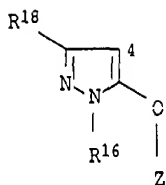
00493006-122700

## 162

- 5       $R^4$  and  $R^5$  together form a  $C_2-C_6$ -alkanediyl chain which can be mono- to tetrasubstituted by  $C_1-C_4$ -alkyl and/or which can be interrupted by oxygen or by a nitrogen which is unsubstituted or substituted by  $C_1-C_4$ -alkyl;
- or
- 10       $R^4$  and  $R^5$  together with the corresponding carbon form a carbonyl or thiocarbonyl group;
- 15       $R^6$  is hydrogen,  $C_1-C_4$ -alkyl,  $C_1-C_4$ -haloalkyl,  $C_1-C_4$ -alkoxy,  $C_1-C_4$ -alkoxy- $C_2-C_4$ -alkoxy,  $C_1-C_4$ -haloalkoxy,  $C_3-C_6$ -alkenyloxy,  $C_3-C_6$ -alkynyloxy or  $NR^7R^8$ ;
- 20       $R^7$  is hydrogen or  $C_1-C_4$ -alkyl;
- 20       $R^8$  is  $C_1-C_4$ -alkyl;
- 25       $X$  is O, S,  $NR^9$ , CO or  $CR^{10}R^{11}$ ;
- 25       $Y$  is O, S,  $NR^{12}$ , CO or  $CR^{13}R^{14}$ ;
- 25       $R^9$ ,  $R^{12}$  are hydrogen or  $C_1-C_4$ -alkyl;
- 30       $R^{10}$ ,  $R^{11}$ ,  $R^{13}$ ,  $R^{14}$  are hydrogen,  $C_1-C_4$ -alkyl,  $C_1-C_4$ -haloalkyl,  $C_1-C_4$ -alkoxycarbonyl,  $C_1-C_4$ -haloalkoxycarbonyl or  $CONR^7R^8$ ;
- or
- 35       $R^4$  and  $R^9$  or  $R^4$  and  $R^{10}$  or  $R^5$  and  $R^{12}$  or  $R^5$  and  $R^{13}$  together form a  $C_2-C_6$ -alkanediyl chain which can be mono- to tetrasubstituted by  $C_1-C_4$ -alkyl and/or interrupted by oxygen or by a nitrogen which is unsubstituted
- 40      or substituted by  $C_1-C_4$ -alkyl;
- 45       $R^{15}$  is a pyrazole of the formula II which is linked in the 4-position

00746006-12700

163



II

where

R<sup>16</sup> is C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkyl;Z is H or SO<sub>2</sub>R<sup>17</sup>;

R<sup>17</sup> is C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-haloalkyl, phenyl or phenyl which is partially or fully halogenated and/or has attached to it one to three of the following groups: nitro, cyano, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-haloalkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkoxy or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-haloalkoxy;

R<sup>18</sup> is hydrogen or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkyl;

where X and Y are not simultaneously sulfur;

with the exception of

4-[2-chloro-3-(4,5-dihydroisoxazol-3-yl)-4-methylsulfonyl-benzoyl]-1-ethyl-5-hydroxy-1H-pyrazole,

4-[2-chloro-3-(4,5-dihydroisoxazol-3-yl)-4-methylsulfonyl-benzoyl]-1,3-dimethyl-5-hydroxy-1H-pyrazole,

4-[2-chloro-3-(5-cyano-4,5-dihydroisoxazol-3-yl)-4-methylsulfonylbenzoyl]-1,3-dimethyl-5-hydroxy-1H-pyrazole,

4-[2-chloro-3-(4,5-dihydrothiazol-2-yl)-4-methylsulfonyl-benzoyl]-1,3-dimethyl-5-hydroxy-1H-pyrazole and

4-[2-chloro-3-(thiazoline-4,5-dion-2-yl)-4-methylsulfonyl-benzoyl]-1,3-dimethyl-5-hydroxy-1H-pyrazole;

or an agriculturally useful salt thereof.

2. A 3-heterocyclyl-substituted benzoyl derivative of the formula I where the variables have the following meanings:

R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup> are hydrogen, nitro, halogen, cyano, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-haloalkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkoxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-haloalkoxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkylthio, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-haloalkylthio,

C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkylsulfinyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-haloalkylsulfinyl,  
C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkylsulfonyl or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-haloalkylsulfonyl;

- 5        R<sup>3</sup>        is hydrogen, halogen or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkyl;
- R<sup>4</sup>, R<sup>5</sup>    are hydrogen, halogen, cyano, nitro, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl,  
              C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkoxy-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl, di(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkoxy)-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-  
              alkyl, di(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl)-amino-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl,  
10        [2,2-di(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl)-1-hydrazino]-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl,  
              C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkyliminoxy-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkoxycarbonyl-  
              C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkylthio-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl,  
              C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-haloalkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-cyanoalkyl, C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-cycloalkyl,  
              C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkoxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkoxy-C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkoxy,  
15        C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-haloalkoxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkylthio,  
              C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-haloalkylthio, di(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl)amino, COR<sup>6</sup>,  
              phenyl or benzyl, it being possible for the two  
              last-mentioned substituents to be fully or partially  
              halogenated and/or to have attached to them one to  
20        three of the following groups:  
              nitro, cyano, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-haloalkyl,  
              C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkoxy or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-haloalkoxy;
- or
- 25        R<sup>4</sup> and R<sup>5</sup> together form a C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkanediyl chain which can be  
              mono- to tetrasubstituted by C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl and/or  
              which can be interrupted by oxygen or by a  
              nitrogen which is unsubstituted or substituted by  
30        C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl;
- or
- 35        R<sup>4</sup> and R<sup>5</sup> together with the corresponding carbon form a  
              carbonyl or thiocarbonyl group;
- R<sup>6</sup>        is C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-haloalkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkoxy,  
              C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkoxy-C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkoxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-haloalkoxy,  
40        C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkenyloxy, C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkynyloxy or NR<sup>7</sup>R<sup>8</sup>;
- R<sup>7</sup>        is hydrogen or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl;
- 45        R<sup>8</sup>        is C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl;

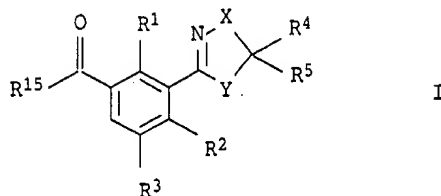
004227-900460

## 3-Heterocyclyl-substituted benzoyl derivatives

## 5 Abstract

Benzoyl derivatives of the formula I

10



15

where the variables have the following meanings:

20

$R^1, R^2$  are hydrogen, nitro, halogen, cyano, alkyl, haloalkyl, alkoxy, haloalkoxy, alkylthio, haloalkylthio, alkylsulfinyl, haloalkylsulfinyl, alkylsulfonyl or  $C_1$ - $C_6$ -haloalkylsulfonyl;

25

$R^3$  is hydrogen, halogen or alkyl;

30

$R^4, R^5$  are hydrogen, halogen, cyano, nitro, alkyl, alkoxy, alkylthio, dialkylamino, phenyl or carbonyl, it being possible for the 6 last-mentioned radicals to be substituted;

X is O, S,  $NR^9$ , CO or  $CR^{10}R^{11}$ ;

35

Y is O, S,  $NR^{12}$ , CO or  $CR^{13}R^{14}$ ;

40

$R^{15}$  is pyrazole which is unsubstituted or substituted, linked in the 4-position and has attached to it in the 5-position a hydroxyl or sulfonyloxy radical;

and the agriculturally useful salts thereof; processes and intermediates for the preparation of the 3-heterocyclyl-substituted benzoyl derivatives; compositions comprising them; and the use of these derivatives or compositions comprising them for controlling undesirable plants."

002221-90084200

where X and Y are not simultaneously oxygen or sulfur;

with the exception of

- 5 4-[2-chloro-3-(4,5-dihydroisoxazol-3-yl)-4-methylsulfonyl-benzoyl]-1-ethyl-5-hydroxy-1H-pyrazole,
- 4-[2-chloro-3-(4,5-dihydroisoxazol-3-yl)-4-methylsulfonyl-benzoyl]-1,3-dimethyl-5-hydroxy-1H-pyrazole,
- 4-[2-chloro-3-(5-cyano-4,5-dihydroisoxazol-3-yl)-4-methylsulfonylbenzoyl]-1,3-dimethyl-5-hydroxy-1H-pyrazole,
- 10 4-[2-chloro-3-(4,5-dihydrothiazol-2-yl)-4-methylsulfonyl-benzoyl]-1,3-dimethyl-5-hydroxy-1H-pyrazole and
- 4-[2-chloro-3-(thiazoline-4,5-dione-2-yl)-4-methylsulfonyl-benzoyl]-1,3-dimethyl-5-hydroxy-1H-pyrazole;

- 15 or an agriculturally useful salt thereof.

3. A 3-heterocyclyl-substituted benzoyl derivative of the formula I as claimed in claim 1 or 2, where R<sup>3</sup> is hydrogen.

- 20 4. A 3-heterocyclyl-substituted benzoyl derivative of the formula I as claimed in any of claims 1 to 3, where

- 25 R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup> are nitro, halogen, cyano, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-haloalkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkoxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-haloalkoxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkylthio, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-haloalkylthio, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkylsulfinyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-haloalkylsulfinyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkylsulfonyl or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-haloalkylsulfonyl.

- 30 5. A 3-heterocyclyl-substituted benzoyl derivative of the formula I as claimed in any of claims 1 to 4, where Z is SO<sub>2</sub>R<sup>17</sup>.

- 35 6. A 3-heterocyclyl-substituted benzoyl derivative of the formula I as claimed in any of claims 1 to 4, where Z is hydrogen.

7. A 3-heterocyclyl-substituted benzoyl derivative of the formula I as claimed in any of claims 1 to 4 or 6, where X is oxygen and Y is CR<sup>13</sup>R<sup>14</sup>.

- 45 8. A 3-heterocyclyl-substituted benzoyl derivative of the formula I as claimed in any of claims 1 to 4 or 6 or 7, where

002221-90034200

167

- R<sup>4</sup> is halogen, nitro, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl,  
 C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkoxy-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl,  
 C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkoxycarbonyl-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl,  
 C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkylthio-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-haloalkyl,  
 C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-cyanoalkyl, C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-cycloalkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkoxy,  
 C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkoxy-C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkoxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-haloalkoxy,  
 C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkylthio, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-haloalkylthio,  
 di(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl)amino, COR<sup>6</sup>, phenyl or benzyl, it  
 being possible for the two last-mentioned  
 substituents to be partially or fully halogenated  
 and/or to have attached to them one to three of  
 the following groups:  
 nitro, cyano, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-haloalkyl,  
 C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkoxy or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-haloalkoxy;
- R<sup>5</sup> is hydrogen or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl;
- or
- R<sup>4</sup> and R<sup>5</sup> together form a C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkanediyl chain which can be  
 mono- to tetrasubstituted by C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl and/or  
 which can be interrupted by oxygen or by a  
 nitrogen which is unsubstituted or substituted by  
 C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl;
- or
- R<sup>5</sup> and R<sup>13</sup> together form a C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkanediyl chain which can be  
 mono- to tetrasubstituted by C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl and/or  
 which can be interrupted by oxygen or by a  
 nitrogen which is unsubstituted or substituted by  
 C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl.
9. A 3-heterocyclyl-substituted benzoyl derivative of the  
 formula I as claimed in any of claims 1 to 4 or 6 to 8, where
- R<sup>4</sup> is C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-haloalkyl,  
 C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkoxycarbonyl or CONR<sup>7</sup>R<sup>8</sup>;
- R<sup>5</sup> is hydrogen or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl;
- or

R<sup>4</sup> and R<sup>5</sup> together form a C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkanediyl chain which can be mono- to tetrasubstituted by C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl and/or which can be interrupted by oxygen or by a nitrogen which is unsubstituted or substituted by C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl;

10 R<sup>5</sup> and R<sup>13</sup> together form a C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkanediyl chain which can be mono- to tetrasubstituted by C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl and/or which can be interrupted by oxygen or by a nitrogen which is unsubstituted or substituted by C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl.

20 11. A 3-heterocyclyl-substituted benzoyl derivative of the  
formula I as claimed in any of claims 1 to 4 or 6 or 7 or 10,  
where R<sup>18</sup> is hydrogen.

13. An agriculturally useful salt of 4-[2-chloro-3-(4,5-dihydroisoxazol-3-yl)-4-methylsulfonylbenzoyl]-1-methyl-5-hydroxy-1H-pyrazole.

35 X is S, NR<sup>9</sup>, CO or CR<sup>10</sup>R<sup>11</sup>;

40 Y is O, S, NR<sup>12</sup> or CO.

45

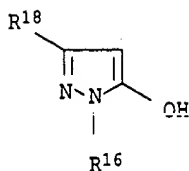


16. A 3-heterocyclyl-substituted benzoyl derivative of the formula I as claimed in any of claims 1 to 4 or 6 or 14, where

- 5         $R^4$         is halogen, cyano, nitro,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkyl,  
                   $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkoxy- $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkyl,  
                   $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkoxycarbonyl- $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkyl,  
                   $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkylthio- $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkyl,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -haloalkyl,  
                   $C_1$ - $C_4$ -cyanoalkyl,  $C_3$ - $C_8$ -cycloalkyl,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkoxy,  
 10         $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkoxy- $C_2$ - $C_4$ -alkoxy,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -haloalkoxy,  
                   $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkylthio,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -haloalkylthio,  
                  di( $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkyl)amino,  $COR^6$ , phenyl or benzyl, it  
                  being possible for the two last-mentioned  
 15        substituents to be partially or fully halogenated  
                  and/or to have attached to them one to three of  
                  the following groups:  
                  nitro, cyano,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkyl,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -haloalkyl,  
                   $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkoxy or  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -haloalkoxy;
- 20         $R^5$         is hydrogen or  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkyl;
- or
- 25         $R^4$  and  $R^5$  together form a  $C_2$ - $C_6$ -alkanediyl chain which can be  
                  mono- to tetrasubstituted by  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkyl and/or  
                  which can be interrupted by oxygen or by a  
                  nitrogen which is unsubstituted or substituted by  
                   $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkyl;
- 30        or
- $R^4$  and  $R^9$  or  $R^4$  and  $R^{10}$  or  $R^5$  and  $R^{12}$  or  $R^5$  and  $R^{13}$  together  
 35        form a  $C_2$ - $C_6$ -alkanediyl chain which can be mono- to  
                  tetrasubstituted by  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkyl and/or which can be  
                  interrupted by oxygen or by a nitrogen which is  
                  unsubstituted or substituted by  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkyl;
- 40         $R^{18}$         is  $C_1$ - $C_6$ -alkyl.

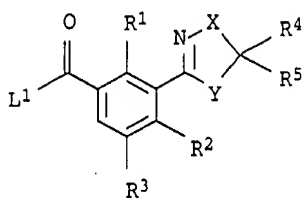
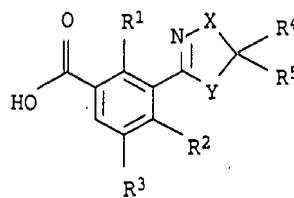
17. A process for the preparation of 3-heterocyclyl-substituted benzoyl derivatives of the formula I as claimed in claim 1, which comprises acylating the pyrazole of the formula II  
 45        where  $Z = H$ , where the variables  $R^{16}$  and  $R^{18}$  have the meanings given under claim 1,

170

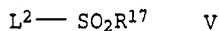


II (where Z = H)

with an activated carboxylic acid III $\alpha$  or with a carboxylic acid III $\beta$ ,

III $\alpha$ III $\beta$ 

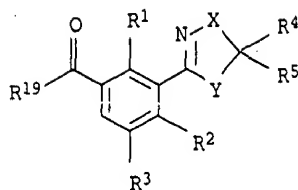
where the variables R<sup>1</sup> to R<sup>5</sup>, X and Y have the meanings given under claim 1 and L<sup>1</sup> is a nucleophilically displaceable leaving group, subjecting the acylation product to a rearrangement reaction in the presence or absence of a catalyst to give the compounds I (where Z = H) and, if desired, to prepare 3-heterocycl-yl-substituted benzoyl derivatives of the formula I where Z = SO<sub>2</sub>R<sup>17</sup>, reacting the product with a compound of the formula V,



where R<sup>17</sup> has the meaning given under claim 1 and L<sup>2</sup> is a nucleophilically displaceable leaving group.

18. A 3-heterocycl-yl-substituted benzoic acid derivative of the formula III,

171



III

10

15

where R<sup>19</sup> is hydroxyl or a radical which can be removed by hydrolysis and variables R<sup>1</sup> to R<sup>5</sup>, X and Y have the meanings given under the claims 1 to 16, with the exception of methyl 2-chloro-3-(4,5-dihydroisoxazol-3-yl)-4-methylsulfonylbenzoate, methyl 2-chloro-3-(4,5-dihydrooxazol-2-yl)-4-methylsulfonylbenzoate and methyl 2,4-dichloro-3-(5-methylcarbonyloxy-4,5-dihydroisoxazol-3-yl)benzoate.

20

19. A 3-heterocyclyl-substituted benzoic acid derivative of the formula III as claimed in claim 18 where the variables R<sup>1</sup> to R<sup>5</sup>, X and Y have the meanings given under claims 2 to 16.

25

20. A 3-heterocyclyl-substituted benzoic acid derivative of the formula III as claimed in either of claims 18 or 19, where

R<sup>19</sup> is halogen, hydroxyl or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkoxy.

30

21. A composition comprising a herbicidally active amount of at least one 3-heterocyclyl-substituted benzoyl derivative of the formula I or of an agriculturally useful salt of I as claimed in any of claims 1 to 16, and auxiliaries conventionally used for the formulation of crop protection products.

35

40

22. A process for the preparation of a composition as claimed in claim 21, which comprises mixing a herbicidally active amount of at least one 3-heterocyclyl-substituted benzoyl derivative of the formula I or of an agriculturally useful salt of I as claimed in any of claims 1 to 16 and auxiliaries conventionally used for the formulation of crop protection products.

45

23. A method of controlling undesirable vegetation, which comprises allowing a herbicidally active amount of at least one 3-heterocyclyl-substituted benzoyl derivative of the

00748006-122700

formula I or of an agriculturally useful salt of I as claimed in any of claims 1 to 16 to act on plants, their environment and/or on seeds.

- 45